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**For Immediate Release**

## **Sid Jacobson JCC Hosts Israelfest, the Largest Celebration of Israel on Long Island**

**East Hills, NY, April 15, 2019** – Each year more than 5,000 people from Long Island, Queens, and Westchester join together for a celebration of Israel at North Hempstead Beach Park in Port Washington. On Sunday, May 5, from 12-4pm, Israelfest 2019 will bring Israeli culture, traditions, and a connection to the country unlike any other to attendees of all ages.

Now in its fifth year, Israelfest is a Yom HaAtzmaut community celebration of Israel's birthday. The largest celebration of Israel on Long Island, Israelfest brings together thousands of attendees. The event is a joint venture between Sid Jacobson JCC and UJA–Federation of New York with more than 30 partner agencies including synagogues, Jewish educational institutions, JCC's, Jewish youth organizations, media partners and vendors. Sponsors have also signed on for the event including Jewish National Fund, NAOT, Liberty Travel, and The Bristol, to name a few.

"The relationship between Israel and America is deep, fundamental and always evolving. As there are celebrations of the 4th of July in Israel, we take pride in being the largest celebration of Israel's independence on the whole of Long Island," says David Black, Executive Director, SJJCC. "Sid Jacobson JCC applauds all our partners for coming together to produce a fun-filled, authentic Israeli experience for all."

This year's event will feature performances by Jewish choirs from across Long Island and live Israeli music from TLV and food options from kosher vendors Colbeh Kosher Mediterranean Grill, Ben's Kosher Deli, and Green Olive Kosher Pizza. Ten market vendors will make up the festival's Israeli Shuk which will sell items including glassware and Judaica pieces, jewelry, stationery and personalized objects, denim pieces and clothing, accessories, and specialty engraved wine bottles. Several family fun and educational activities related to Israel will also be offered throughout the day. Admission and parking are free to all attendees.

"This year's event is bringing everything that is great about community and Israel together, and taking it to the next level," says Gili Dvash, Director, Randie Waldbaum Malinsky Center for Israel, SJJCC. "We are keeping the tradition and atmosphere of the location, and magnifying it with Israeli dancing, music, culture, food, and education. We can't wait to see all of our attendees enjoy the event!"

For more information about Israelfest or to learn about corporate sponsorship opportunities, please visit [sjcc.org/Israelfest](http://sjcc.org/Israelfest) or contact Jaimee Molberger, Development Associate, Grants + Foundations at Sid Jacobson JCC, [jmolberger@sjcc.org](mailto:jmolberger@sjcc.org) or 516.484.1545 ext. 116.

Volunteer opportunities are available for all aspects of the event. To learn more about volunteering at Israelfest, contact Linda Samet, Supervisor of Volunteer Services at Sid Jacobson JCC, [lsamet@sjcc.org](mailto:lsamet@sjcc.org) or 516.484.1545 ext. 149.

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### **About Sid Jacobson JCC**

Sid Jacobson JCC ([sjcc.org](http://sjcc.org)), in East Hills, and its surrounding campus, the Bernice Jacobson Day School and Camp ([bjdsc.org](http://bjdsc.org)), in Old Westbury, provide a full range of cutting-edge recreational, health, fitness, educational, cultural arts and social service programs. SJJCC promotes Jewish identity and provides a comprehensive program based on Jewish values, traditions, heritage, and culture, and is committed to enriching the lives of all individuals and families in its community. SJJCC embraces all individuals and families, and values diversity. See community differently, "Like" the JCC on Facebook ([facebook.com/sidjacobsonjcc](https://facebook.com/sidjacobsonjcc)).

**Sid Jacobson JCC is a beneficiary agency of the UJA Federation of New York.**

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